

Remarks

Claims 1 and 29-45 remain pending in the Application. No new matter has been added. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1, 29-31, 41, and 43-45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Purkey (US 5,706,976).

Claims 32-40 and 42 were indicated allowable if written in an independent form.

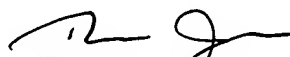
The Amendments

The indication of allowability is greatly appreciated. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, claims have been written in independent form. Specifically, claims 32, 33, and 38 have been written in an independent form. Claim 42 has also been written in an independent form (as claim 1). Method claim 45 was amended in a manner similar to claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are allowable. Applicants further respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections on the basis that Purkey does not anticipate the claims. Nevertheless, claims have been amended to advance prosecution.

The undersigned is willing to discuss any aspect of the Application by telephone at the Office's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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